

The Post-Fortean File

1947-1950

1947

¶June 26, 1947: *Los Angeles Times*

9 "SAUCERS" FLING 1200 MPH SIGHTED—BUT WHAT ARE THEY?

Pendleton, Ore. June 25 (AP) Kenneth Arnold reported seeing nine shiny objects flying at 1,200 miles an hour over the Cascade range of Western Washington. The objects were bright and saucer-like, flying at 10,000 feet altitude. When first sighted they were approximately 25-30 miles away, and flying north.

¶June 29, 1947: *Los Angeles Daily News*

MANY REPORT SEEING FLYING SAUCERS

White Sands Proving Ground, N. M. June 28 (UP) The Kenneth Arnold report of seeing nine objects which flew like flying saucers and supported by other residents in the Northwest area as having seen flying objects, was discounted by Air Force officers in New Mexico. Lt. Col. Harold R. Turner, commanding officer of the Army's rocket proving ground, said the disks must have been jet airplanes.

¶July 4, 1947: *Los Angeles Examiner*

AIR FORCE PROBES "FLYING DISKS" MYSTERY; HITS MISSILE THEORY

Wright Field, Ohio, July 3 (INS) Officers of the air research and development section of the AAF's Air Matériel Command were asked by General Carl Spaatz, the Army's air commander, to try to ascertain what the disks are. Lt. William C. Anderson, public relations officer at the field, said: "So far we haven't found anything to confirm that the disks exist. We don't think they are guided missiles." He said as things were they now appear to be either a phenomenon or figment of somebody's imagination.

¶July 4, 1947: *Los Angeles Examiner*

AIRLINE PILOT SIGHTS FLYING DISK CLUSTER

Boise, Idaho, July 4 (AP) Captain Smith, United Airlines pilot, with co-pilot, First Officer Stevens, reported "three to five" disks at an altitude of 7,500 feet, 15 miles southwest of Ontario, Oregon. The first photograph taken of the mystery saucers was claimed by Yeoman Frank Ryman. Ryman's estimate was that the saucer was 9,000 to 10,000 feet in the air and traveling 500 m.p.h.

¶July 5, 1947: *Los Angeles Examiner*

MARS — SAYS "SAUCERS" MAY BE SIGNALS FROM PLANET

Detroit, July 5 (INS) A Detroit meteorologist, unidentified, says the disks may be signals from Mars.

¶July 5, 1947: *Los Angeles Examiner*
ASTRONOMER FAILS TO LOCATE SAUCERS

Flagstaff, Ariz. July 5 (UP) Dr. V. M. Slipper, director of the famed Lowell Observatory, said he hadn't noted any saucers from Arizona but that you can find anything you want to find in the heavens if you look long enough.

¶July 5, 1947: *Los Angeles Examiner*
REPORTS POUR IN ON SAUCER PUZZLE

UP release: Numerous reports received from all over the nation are causing scientists to wonder if many Americans just don't have a bad case of jitters; seeing spots before their eyes, aren't suffering from hallucinations or delusions. Reports noted from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Georgia, Idaho, and other states in the far west.

¶July 5, 1947: *Los Angeles Examiner*
STRANGE FIND—OBJECT LIKE "SAUCER" DROPS ON FARM

Circleville, Ohio, July 4 (AP) Sherman Campbell, reported having found a strange object on his farm in the form of a six-pointed star, 50 inches high, 48 inches wide, covered with tinfoil, and weighing about two pounds. Port Columbus, Air field Weather Station, said object tallied with object used by the Army Air Forces to measure wind velocity.

¶July 5, 1947: *Los Angeles Examiner*
INVENTOR'S TEST OF "FLYING SAUCERS" HERE IN 1928 BARED

Leo Bentz, one time builder of automobiles, said that he and a friend saw a confidential demonstration of saucer-like flying model in Griffith Park in 1928. The inventor was George de Bay interested in a new principle for airplanes. De Bay produced drawings showing designs of contrivance that would skip through the air like a flat stone—an upside down saucer that worked on a vacuum principle requiring ten times less power for propulsion. Inventor de Bay, it is believed, may have gone to Russia.

¶July 5, 1947: *Los Angeles Examiner*
FLIERS GET CLOSE UP—ONE SAYS OVALS "SCARED HIM SILLY"

Dan J. Whelan and Duncan Underhill of Hollywood reported that near Santa Monica at 5 P.M. on July 4, 1947, they saw a disk above them at 2,000 feet. The fliers were about 7,000 feet altitude. It was a disk-shaped object, not spinning, but resembling a rifle practice disk target, forty to fifty feet in diameter and traveling at about 400 to 500 miles an hour.

¶July 5, 1947: *Los Angeles Examiner*
FLYING DISKS V.F.W. CHIEF EXPECTS U. S. TO EXPLAIN

Columbus, Ohio, July 5 (AP) Louis E. Starr, national commander in chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars told the V.F.W. Ohio encampment that he was expecting information from Washington regarding the "fleet of flying saucers." Commander did not indicate his source of information.

¶July 5, 1947: *Los Angeles Examiner*
LINK "SAUCERS" TO ATOM TESTS

In headlines one and three-eighths inches high story makes a stab at tie up between atomic disturbances and saucerian curiosity. Photo with title "What is it?" shows flying disk at 10,000 feet. This is a print of the photograph taken by Yeoman Ryman.

¶July 9, 1947: *Los Angeles Examiner*
Photo 6 × 9¾ inches. Title: "Now What?" Captain roads, "Residents in almost every section of Kentucky reported seeing these luminous 'disks' streaking across the sky last night. A newspaper photographer was on hand to snap this picture of two of the flying objects."

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¶January 7, 1948: *The Louisville Courier*

F-51 AND CAPT. MANTELL DESTROYED CHASING FLYING SAUCER

Ft. Knox, Jan. 8 (UP) Capt. Thomas F. Mantell, of the Kentucky Air National Guard, a veteran of the Normandy invasion, chased either a flying saucer or the planet Venus to his death today over Godman Air Force base, near Fort Knox. Two others in the formation pulled out at 18,000 feet but Capt. Mantell went up to 20,000 feet before meeting his death.

¶February 18, 1948: *The Omaha Herald*

FLYING SAUCER SETS OFF EXPLOSION?

Stockton, Kansas, Feb. 18 (UP) A terrific explosion in northern Kansas rocked buildings, broke windows, and terrified natives. Its origin is unknown. A farmer near Stockton said he saw a flying saucer before the explosion.

¶April 5, 1948: *Manila, P. I.*

SAUCER ELUDES ARMY PILOT BY 90-DEGREE TURN
Manila, Apr. 8 Lt. Robert W. Meyers of the 67th Fighter Wing, 18th Fighter Group, Philippine Islands, leading a group of four F-47s, saw an aerial object three miles away, turned around to check on it and watched it make a 90-degree turn and disappear within five seconds. It was silver-colored and left no exhaust trails.

¶April 8, 1948:

TWO TOWNS REPORT SILVER PLATTER IN SKY

Ashley, O., Apr. 8 (UP) Several witnesses reported an oblong silver streak over two Ohio towns. Perkins Observatory said there were weather balloons in the area at the time of the sighting.

¶July 28, 1948: *Los Angeles Herald and Express*

GEORGIANS SEE WEIRD SKY SHOW

Montgomery, Ala., July 28 (INS) At least 15 persons in Georgia report seeing a ball of fire, with a short flaming tail, which was variously described as being red, green, blue, and reddish white. Two flyers in Alabama reported seeing flying objects which were silvery moving westward very slowly. All agreed the objects were moving from west to east.

¶October 1, 1948:

GORMAN HAS 27-MINUTE DOG FIGHT WITH DISK LIGHT

Lt. George F. Gorman had a dog fight with a flying saucer over the Fargo, North Dakota, Air National Guard field for 27 minutes. He chased the light up and down, dodged head-on collisions and finally was lost at 14,000 feet, left behind by his assailant. Two control tower officers and civilians in another plane witnessed the fight.

¶April 8, 1949: *Los Angeles Times*

SKY-GOING DISK SIGHTED BY PARK JOB WORKERS

Two workmen in Griffith Park reported seeing a silver disk flying at a high rate of speed. Left a trail of white vapor, and zig-zagged northward. Estimated the altitude about one mile, and the disks to be about five feet in diameter. Griffith Observatory reported seeing or hearing nothing that day.

¶April 27, 1949: *Los Angeles Times*

FLYING SAUCERS NO JOKE, AIR FORCE SAID TO HAVE FOUND AFTER INQUIRY

Dayton, Ohio, April 26 (UP) The Air Force has not ruled out the possibility that the flying saucers are foreign aircraft. They have assigned a crew of technical intelligence agents of the Air Matériel Command to track down reports of the mysterious object. A total of 240 domestic and 30 foreign incidents of saucers reported have been investigated. Thirty per cent of these found to be due to conventional objects such as weather, meteors, and cosmic ray research balloons. Commonplace answers are expected to be found for thirty per cent and the remaining forty per cent are still a mystery, the *Journal Herald* said. "It is believed very unlikely that any other nation of the earth could have knowledge so far above the level of ours."

¶April 30, 1949: *The Saturday Evening Post*

WHAT YOU CAN BELIEVE ABOUT FLYING SAUCERS by Sidney Shalett

In a long article he says the Air Force has given him wholehearted co-operation and that the service has not been able to locate a flying saucer. He follows the "mistaken objects" party line but gives no opinion of his own that can be pinned down and quoted.

¶May 7, 1949: *The Saturday Evening Post*

WHAT YOU CAN BELIEVE ABOUT FLYING SAUCERS by Sidney Shalett

The author quotes various members of the high command—Vandenberg, Norstad, McCoy, LeMay, and Spaatz—all tending to belittle what you can believe about flying saucers. This is followed by case histories all tending to support the old "hallucinations" party line.

¶July 25, 1949: *Los Angeles Times*

WINGLESS FLAMING SKY MONSTER SEEN

Atlanta, July 24 (UP) Airline pilots reported tremendous aircraft spewing forty-foot stream of fire from rear. The space ship had a luminous glow, like a giant fluorescent light which ran along the belly of the thing. It was going between 500 and 700 miles an hour.

¶August 21, 1949: *The Los Angeles Times*

JUST OLD CONTRAPTIONS "FLYING SAUCERS" FIND PROVES FALSE ALARM

Washington, D. C. August 20 (AP) Air Force said that the two old machines found in a Maryland tobacco shed had nothing to do with the reported flying saucers. (Illustrated by a 1940 photo of rotor planes developed by Jonathan Caldwell. Remains of his works were found in Maryland.)

¶August 31, 1949: *Los Angeles Times*

U. S. OFFICERS REPORT SEEING FLYING DISKS, Feature by Marvin Miles

White Sands Proving Grounds, N. M. August 29. Flying saucers or at least some mysterious objects seen by the service personnel at this center were reported today. One officer believes the objects were space ships. Weather balloon, familiar to observer, was therefore disqualified. Observation made through a photo theodolite, showed ship to be egg-shaped, fantastic in size, traveling at possibly three to four miles a second.

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¶August 31, 1949: *Los Angeles Daily News*

WEIRD SKY MONSTER TRAILS MILE OF FLAME

Report of sky giant trailing a blue flame exhaust nearly a mile long, cruising 50,000 feet above the Air Force's base at Muroc. Airport towers and CAA monitors at Lockheed Air Terminal, Palmdale and Long Beach received the startling report from a private pilot and two passengers. Bob Hanley, pilot, reported object at 12:15 A.M. over Mint Canyon. Hanley was described as a steady and reliable pilot.

¶September 16, 1949: *Los Angeles Times*

OUR FLYING DISK EXPERT READS SOME OF HIS MAIL, Feature by Marvin Miles

Written in the humorous trend, author quotes portions of letters received by writer from people, stating the various and sundry things they have seen, such as: "a huge blunt-nosed bullet," "bright golden object with bluish green light," "looked like enormous shuttlecocks." Marvin Miles would like to have a photograph, he states.

¶October 6, 1949: *Los Angeles Daily Mirror*

NEW THEORY HINTED—"FLYING SAUCERS" ARE REALLY REAL

Flying saucers are real objects not figments of imagination, reports *Daily Mirror*. They may even be from some other planet. Basis for the conclusion apparently was that enough evidence has been gathered from varied and far flung sources to blast the notion that "there's nothing to the flying saucers."

¶October 12, 1949: *Variety* (New York)

ONE FLYING SAUCER LANDS IN NEW MEXICO

Two-column feature by Frank Scully giving full details from scientists who researched a saucer. "It was 100 feet across, with a cabin in the center that measures 18 feet in diameter and 72 inches high." It further stated that "sixteen men, intact but charred black, were found in the cabin. The space ship contains two metals never found so far on this earth."

¶October 31, 1949: *Los Angeles Daily Mirror*

WEIRD SKY MONSTER TRAILS MILE OF FLAME

Aircraft inventor, William B. Stout, stated that the flying disk and weird space ships cannot be laughed off. The same story of the "mile of flame" that appeared in the August 31, 1949 issue of the *Los Angeles Daily News* is run here.

¶November 23, 1949: *Variety* (New York)

FLYING SAUCERS DISMANTLED, SECRETS MAY BE LOST

Two-column feature by Frank Scully giving added details of flying saucers revealed by him on October 12, 1949. New details indicate they traveled on magnetic lines of force and could therefore have come from a planet like Venus and have got back there in an hour. Ships, he says, were dismantled by the Air Force over the protests of magnetic research scientists.

¶December 27, 1949: *Los Angeles Times*

FLYING DISKS CALLED SPIES FROM PLANET

New York, December 26 (AP) Article refers to Donald Keyhoe's story in *True Magazine*, January issue. Many quotes direct from the article. A.P. story seems to accept the *True* article as correct.

¶December 28, 1949: *Los Angeles Daily News*
"FLYING SAUCER" MYTH BLOWN SKY HIGH BY AIR FORCE STUDY

Washington, December 28 (UP) The Air Force has closed project saucer, because the 375 reports that the Air Force has made of the flying saucers shows no verification whatever of the reports, and attributes the reports to "misinterpretation of conventional objects, a mild form of mass hysteria or hoaxes."

¶December 28, 1949: *Los Angeles Times*
NO EVIDENCE—FLYING DISKS BRANDED "JOKE" BY AIR FORCE

Washington, December 27 (AP) Air Force said today that two years of investigation have convinced them that flying saucers are just a joke. It ordered ended a special "flying saucer" project which was set up in January, 1948. The announcement of its final report served as a denial of a story published by *True Magazine*, which said saucers were real and were from another planet. Analyses indicate flying objects are: (1) Misinterpretation of various conventional objects (2) a mild form of mass hysteria (3) or hoaxes.

¶December 28, 1949: *Hollywood Citizen News*
FLYING SAUCER IDEAS BLASTED BY AIR FORCE

Washington, December 27 (AP) It took two years, a special team from the Air Force's science staff and help from university consultants to track down the rumors of disks. "Under Air Force definition, 'various conventional objects' include such things as meteors, balloons, birds in flight, or just ordinary optical illusions."

¶December 29, 1949: *Los Angeles Times*
STRANGE BLIMP-SHAPED AIRCRAFT SEEN IN EAST Hamlet, N. C. December 28 (AP) Several residents including two pilots report seeing craft which was about twenty to thirty feet in diameter. One pilot chased it and reported seeing something dropped from the craft—it resembled a man. The theory of a weather balloon was disqualified as the object was much larger than a weather balloon, and the pilot was familiar with the standard weather balloon.

¶December 29, 1949: *Los Angeles Evening Herald and Express*
WEIRD SIGNALS IN SKIES AS 1950 DAWNS

Ghostly "Trails" over Los Angeles. Also seen in the East a mystery vapor in strange designs. Four pilots chased an object over Carolina for several minutes. It resembled a streak of smoke about fifteen or twenty feet long coming from an unseen plane. Observers at the U. S. Weather Bureau spotted the trails spreading across the sky at an estimated 20,000 or 25,000 feet.

¶December 29, 1949: *Hollywood Citizen News*
FLYING "THING" ELUDES NORTH CAROLINA PILOTS

Many residents reported having seen an object looking like a balloon or blimp, and it appeared to be twenty to thirty feet in diameter, over the North Carolina communities of Fayetteville, and Greenwood. It flew into the setting sun; four pilots in light planes attempted to follow it. The Weather Bureau at Charlotte said that apparently it was not a weather balloon, but the officials at Pop Field Airbase said that the object could very probably have been a balloon.

¶December 30, 1949: *Los Angeles Times*

VAPOR TRAILS TRACED IN SKY BY MILITARY PLANES

Picture showing mile long vapor trails coming from wing tips of military planes maneuvering between 25,000 and 35,000 feet. The turbulence created by the planes' passage caused a premature formation of "clouds," which appeared as streamers behind the aircraft.

¶December 31, 1949: *Los Angeles Daily News*

Editorial: Evidences skepticism as to possibility of flying disks. "It would not be too difficult to believe there are beings in the universe more intelligent than man. But it is still a bit outside the bounds of reason to believe space ships from another planet have come here." It further states: "Americans want their flying saucers and their men from Mars. They want their bugaboos and boogie men. They want their scandal and ordeals by fire. If the facts interfere with the achievement of these, to heck with the facts."

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¶January 1950: *True Magazine*, Volume 26, No. 152

THE FLYING SAUCERS ARE REAL by Donald E. Keyhoe
Author reports that he spent eight months of intensive investigation. He is convinced flying saucers are real. Article rewrites Fort and Air Force reports mainly.

¶January 11, 1950: *Los Angeles Times*

QUEER OBJECTS SIGHTED IN SKY BY WEATHERMEN
Tucumcari, N. M. January 10 (AP) The report of three weathermen comparing notes regarding two strange objects. One object soared through the sky, changing from white to red to green and back to white. It disappeared twenty-two minutes after it first was sighted. The second object was much smaller; it also changed color and disappeared in about an hour.

¶January 11, 1950: *Variety* (New York)

AIR FORCE ASKED TWENTY QUESTIONS by Frank Scully

Queries indicate that flying saucers were dismantled in New Mexico and Arizona and shipped back to Wright Field, Dayton, Ohio and never heard of since. Air Force did not even bother to say "No comment," but newspapers like the *L. A. Daily Mirror*, *The Buffalo Evening News*, *The Christian Science Monitor*, *Fortnight*, *The Canyon Crier* and radio commentators around the country picked the questions up for further dissemination. As of April, 1950 only one of the questions has been answered, and that not by the Air Force.

¶January 11, 1950: *Daily Variety* (Review)

THE FLYING SAUCER (reviewer not given) Films Classics of Columbia Productions. "Action unfolds at the famed Taku glacier near Juneau. Much of the footage is spectacularly effective. Narrative shows race between U. S. and Russia to find saucer, and in its unfoldment there is fast action. Scenes purporting to show the lightning like saucer are thrillingly presented." The producer, director, writer, and star is Mikel Conrad.

¶January 9-13, 1950: *The New York Times*.

EINSTEIN ANNOUNCES PROFOUND DISCOVERY

Einstein used a quadratic type of equation method to describe the fact that energy and matter are not different. "Now Dr. Einstein has gone one step further. He has a series of equations which, he says, expresses all the relationships of the physical universe. Particularly, they tell the relationship between gravitation and the electromagnetic force that is all about us."

¶January 16, 1950: *Los Angeles Daily Mirror*

HERE ARE SOME NEW PUZZLERS ON FLYING SAUCERS RIDDLE by Dick Williams

Dick Williams picks up the twenty questions asked by Frank Scully, and is interested in what the answers are to these questions.

¶January 20, 1950: *The Kansas City Times*

THE LITTLE MEN IN SPACE SHIPS SAIL BACK TO FICTION'S LIMBO

The Denver residents who told Rudy Fick about visitors from Venus and showed him "evidence" now disclaim authenticity of their conversational Frankenstein. Motorcar dealer passes story on that was told to him by an engineer from Denver named George Coulter. The story became distorted as it circulated, ending up with R. Fick actually having seen the disks instead of passing on a story which had been related to him. A prank was played on the motorcar dealer.

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¶January 23, 1950: *Los Angeles Daily Mirror*

DID 15-YEAR-OLD BOY HAPPEN ON SECRET OF FLYING DISKS by Dick Williams

This is the story of a fifteen-year-old boy interested in short-wave radio construction, who accidentally hit on the wave length of magnetic frequency and every time he dialed this frequency he shorted every motor-driven vehicle using the ignition system for a radius of three miles. This incident occurred back in 1941 in Appleton, Wisconsin. In check, Dick Williams found that motors of planes flying over his house were also shorted. The local airfield had made record of the phenomena several times. This story is related in that the explanation of magnetic frequency as being tied in somewhere.

¶February 2, 1950: *Los Angeles Daily Mirror*

FLAMES ACROSS THE SKY—TUCSON PILOT CHASES "DISK"

Tucson, Ariz., February 2 (AP) An Air Force base pilot, Davis Monthan chased an unidentified object in his B-29. He was unable to catch the object, which left a "long black plume of smoke" as it disappeared very rapidly behind a range of mountains. White Sands Proving Ground in New Mexico said that the object was not a rocket, because there had been no firing that day.

¶February 9, 1950: *Los Angeles Herald Express*

"FLYING CONE"—CHECK REPORT OF ODD CRAFT OVER SAN FRANCISCO

San Francisco, Feb. 9. Observations made by five residents of San Leandro, California, and Lt. Commander J. L. Kraker of an object which appeared like a thirty-foot ice cream cone. It flew over the Alameda Naval Station at about 5,000 feet and disappeared southeast at from seventy-five to ninety-five miles an hour. Vapor trails were left.

¶February 19, 1950: *Los Angeles Herald Express*

FLYING SAUCER DISINTEGRATES INTO SPARKS

Copenhagen, Denmark, Feb. 18. Christian Sandersen, farmer, and his wife said they saw two flying saucers. One saucer passed over the roof of the farmhouse, and the other landed in the yard and in less than a minute disintegrated into thousands of flowing sparks. The saucer had a light shining through its apparently transparent bottom and flew a red ribbon.

¶February 23, 1950: *Los Angeles Daily News*

"SPACE SHIPS FROM ANOTHER PLANET"

New York, Feb. 23 (UP) Navy man tells about 'em (at usual rates). Commander Robert B. McLaughlin relates theory that flying saucers are really "space ships from another planet." Commander McLaughlin headed a guided missiles research unit. McLaughlin states he saw one of the disks in May of 1949. Much of the information is that contained in his article in *True Magazine*.

¶February 22, 1950: *Buffalo Evening News*

CRITIC OF AIR FORCE INSISTS BODIES WERE FOUND IN FLYING SAUCERS

Announcement by the Air Force that its Operation Saucer had been closed failed in its purpose. The announcement followed by twenty-four hours the appearance in *True Magazine* of an article by Donald E. Keyhoe. Frank Scully scoffs at Air Force announcement of closing. The article lists Scully's twenty questions.

¶February 23, 1950: *Los Angeles Times*

OTHER PLANET SEND SAUCERS, NAVY MAN SAYS

New York, Feb. 22 (UP) Navy commander convinced that flying saucers are real space ships, piloted by strangers from other planets. Commander Robert B. McLaughlin, guided missile expert, is the U.P.'s authority.

¶March 7, 1950: *Denver Post*

SKY LIGHT AT GERING HURTS EYES

Gering, Neb., March 7. A blazing white light flashed across the countryside in the early morning. The object was very bright, and could not be watched continually without hurting the eyes. Appeared to be 100 feet in the air and traveled fast. It seemingly changed shape—first appearing flat and wide, then hour-glass shaped, and then round. Estimated twenty to twenty-five feet in radius.

¶March 9, 1950: *Denver Post*

D. U. STUDENTS HEAR WEIRD TALE OF MIDGET DISK PILOTS LANDING

Story by *Denver Post* staff writer—Charles Little—gives account of a 45-minute secret discourse on flying saucers by an unidentified guest lecturer to several hundred students.

¶March 9, 1950: *Denver Post*

DISK EXPERT'S IDENTITY STILL A DARK MYSTERY

Alfred C. Nelson, vice-chancellor, expressed surprise at the publicity given the lecturer, since the students of the class were urged to "exercise logic" on whatever the lecturer told them in his address. Francis F. Broman, the class instructor, said he permitted the lecturer to speak to test the class' ability to weigh evidence of a scientific nature.

¶March 9, 1950: *Denver Post*

YANK CLAIMS HE SAW WRECKED FLYING DISK

Los Angeles, March 9 (INS) Ray L. Dimmick, sales manager for the Apache Powder Co., states he saw a disk land near Mexico City, killing its pilot, who was 25 inches tall, with a big head and small body. The object was 46 feet in diameter and powered by two motors. The disk appeared to be constructed of aluminum.

¶March 9, 1950: *Los Angeles Examiner*

SHOWERS FROM THE NORTHWEST—One Word Led to Another by Arthur "Bugs" Baer

"If you have been perturbed by rumors of flying saucers don't worry until you see the rest of the dishes." In this vain he says that scientists dispute the theory that Mars is throwing the dishes—that they call it natural phenomenon unexplainable by marginal notations in a cookbook.

¶March 10, 1950: *Los Angeles Examiner*

23-IN. PILOT REPORTED KILLED IN "SAUCER" CRASH

Ray L. Dimmick, business executive and well-known amateur golfer, reported that he saw a wreckage at a secret military installation near Mexico City, of a saucer which was powered by two motors. The saucer was approximately 46 feet in diameter, built of metal resembling aluminum, and contained the body of a pilot 23 inches tall, who was killed when the object supposedly crashed. The Mexican authorities roped off the area, and removed the wreckage to military installation. "Top brass" from Washington, D. C., and Air Force headquarters professed to know nothing of it, and said, "If American officers had seen the object they would have made a report."

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¶March 10, 1950: *Denver Post*

IS YOUR SAUCER VIEW DIM OR DIMMICK'S?

Los Angeles, March 10 (AP) Ray L. Dimmick, a dynamite salesman, backtracked today. He said the flying saucer story was related to him by two business associates. All Dimmick actually saw, according to revised version, was a strip of metal about six feet long, eight inches wide, and three-quarters of an inch thick. Dr. Vallarta, Mexico's leading nuclear scientist, stated that the saucer-seers were viewing balloons released by the U. S. weather stations along the border.

¶March 10, 1950: *Denver Post*

"ZOOM, SWISH, PFFT!" SAYS SAUCER SEER

Lewis Hayden, Denver aviation executive reported that he thought he sighted a saucer. "All I know—it was very high, shiny like aluminum, and shot out of sight at a rate of speed unknown to modern aviation."

¶March 10, 1950: *Chicago Daily Times*

"DISK" REPORTS START JITTERS

A two-column report of the fallen saucer seen by Ray L. Dimmick, which crashed in Mexico, killing its 23-inch pilot, coupled with the Colorado version, as related by the *Denver Post*, of the lecturer who told several hundred students in a basic science class of the University of Denver that he knew of three saucers landing.

¶March 10, 1950: *Los Angeles Times*

COMPOSER SURE HE SAW FLYING SAUCER IN SKY

Eddie Coffman, composer, and amateur astronomer, told police he had seen a genuine flying saucer about 400 feet over the San Fernando Valley. Saucer was about fifty feet in diameter, and was observed through 20-power telescope.

¶March 10, 1950: *Denver Post*

D. U. STUDENTS IMPRESSED BY TALK OF FLYING DISKS AND LITTLE MEN

Reaction of the University of Denver basic science students to the lecturer they heard by an unidentified individual who claimed knowledge of disks and the men inside, was one of great interest. The class had requested to hear from an "authority" on existence of the objects.

¶March 1950: *True Magazine*, Volume 26, No. 154

HOW SCIENTISTS TRACED A FLYING SAUCER by Commander R. B. McLaughlin

Author was assigned to guided missiles at White Sands Proving Ground, New Mexico. His article is mainly a detailed account of one saucer which he thought he saw at an altitude of twenty-five miles moving at 360 miles per hour. He said he was convinced they were space ships from another planet.

¶March 10, 1950: *Los Angeles Times*

SCIENTIST SAYS SAUCERS CARRY MARS VISITORS

Mexico City, March 9 (UP) Government newspaper *El Nacional* quoted a Mexican scientist as saying his claim that flying saucers carry visitors from Mars, would be confirmed in the near future. The scientist said that it was obvious from the manner of light and proportions of these disks that they carry beings from another world, undoubtedly Mars.

¶March 12, 1950: *Los Angeles Times*

LITTLE MEN HERE AGAIN, THIS TIME OVER SALINAS
Salinas, March 11, (UP) Reports of saucers diving on an automobile, looping the loop and/or speeding across the horizon at low altitude, was made by a score of persons in the Salinas, California area.

¶March 12, 1950: *Los Angeles Times*

CHILEAN NAVY REPORTS 7-INCH FLYING SAUCER

Santiago, March 11 (UP) Chilean Navy's meteorologist observatory at Punta Arenas reported spheroid celestial body, about seven inches in diameter, and naked to the eye, which crossed the sky in an east-to-west direction.

¶March 12, 1950: *Los Angeles Times*

AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHER SNAPS WEIRD DISK IN SKY

Amateur photographer, Miss Bette Malles of Los Angeles, has both seen and snapped a photograph of something resembling a flying saucer. The disk was a circular blob, and what appears to be a cone of faint light, connects the blob to the disk. A second cone of light, projecting backwards from the disk narrows to meet another round blob of light which seems to serve as the disk's rear guard. The disk and its rear guard are enclosed within a large and perfectly circular halo.

SAUCER-TALK MIDDLEMAN QUIZ TARGET

George T. Koehler is the middleman in bringing the mystery scientist to speak to the basic science students of Denver University. Koehler gave his opinion: "Let's open our minds to the possibility of the saucer, at least. Why hide our heads in the sand? If the age is here, it is here whether there are denials that interplanetary travel has come of age or not."

March 12, 1950: *Los Angeles Times*

MEXICO SEES FLYING SAUCERS OR SOMETHING

Mexico City, March 11 (UP) Ever since the *True Magazine* story, and the fact that the newspaper *Excelsior* printed a series of articles citizens have "saucer craze." A picture taken of a strange object appeared very much like a picture of a klieg light.

¶March 12, 1950: *Denver Post*

SAUCY SAUCER SAUSE—SHADES OF H. G. WELLS AND JULES VERNE

Feature by Thor Severson, *Denver Post* staff writer. Factual report of the lecture given to the basic science students of the University of Denver by the unidentified lecturer who reported on disks and the little men inside them.

¶March 12, 1950: *Los Angeles Times*

CALEXICO HAS NEW FLYING SAUCER TALE

Residents reported a strange round object in the sky. There seems to be a dispute as to whether the object was a weather balloon, or the work of some prankster who attempted to augment recent flying saucer reports in the Riverside area.

¶March 12, 1950: *Los Angeles Times*

FLYING SAUCERS? YOU CAN'T BE SURE by Marvin Miles
Kites, balloons, reflections? Almost anything, says the Air Force. Three hundred and forty-one reports have been explained to the Air Force's satisfaction out of 375 selected reports of unidentified flying objects. States ratio is probably lower by now, and that it does not mean that the unexplained reports are necessarily space ships or high altitude cruisers from another nation.

¶March 14, 1950: *Los Angeles News*

EXPERTS SIGHT FOUR 'SAUCERS' OVER MEXICO CITY

Mexico City, March 14 (UP) Hundreds of persons said they saw four flying saucers over the city and one at Monterrey, 350 miles north. Meteorologist calculated the altitude between 35,000 and 40,000 feet. Included also was the story of the two Colorado businessmen who were chased by a strange flying object while returning from a trip to New Mexico.

¶March 14, 1950: *Los Angeles Times*

PROFESSOR'S IDEA—SAUCER PILOTS COULD BE SMART BUGS OR PLANTS

Dr. Gerard P. Kuiper, professor of astronomy at the University of Chicago speculated that any little Martian who steps out of a flying saucer space ship will be either an intellectual insect or an even more incredible vegetable creature. Dr. Kuiper states further that Mars is composed of carbon dioxide and there is absolutely no oxygen in the atmosphere; hence no form of life such as we know it. There may be forms of insect life however.

¶March 15, 1950: *Los Angeles Daily News*

EXPERTS SIGHT FOUR "SAUCERS" OVER MEXICO CITY

Mexico City, March 14 (UP) Trained aircraft observers and meteorologists confirmed reports today of hundreds of persons who saw four "flying saucers" yesterday over the city and one at Monterrey, 350 miles north.

¶March 16, 1950: *Denver Post*
ATOMIC CLOUDS?

John Leuthold, in the Open Forum Theory, submitted a letter that explained that the saucers are atomic clouds or cloudlets of released atomic ingredients arrested by, and magnetically collected on sheets or shells of the earth's magnetic field. Some of these "shells" have been detected by the scientists and named "ionospheres."

¶March 16, 1950:
TECHNICIAN GETS CLOSEUP OF FLYING SAUCER
St. Mary's, Pa., March 16 (UP) Dr. Craig Hunter, 47, of Berkeley Springs, W. Va., a technical director for a Washington medical instrument supply firm, reported he saw flying objects that were moving slowly from east to west. Their altitude was first noted to be about 250 to 500 feet. The objects appeared to be 50 to 150 feet in diameter and about 25 to 30 feet thick at the center.

¶March 16, 1950: *Denver Post*
DISK TALK MOVES D. U. TO SCREEN LECTURERS
Chancellor Albert C. Jacobs cautioned University of Denver faculty members to screen guest lecturers carefully. This action came as a result of the mystery lecturer that spoke at the university on March 8, 1950.

¶March 16, 1950: *Denver Post*
D. U. PROFESSOR PLACES NO VALUE ON SAUCER LECTURE BY MISTER X by Thor Severson, *Denver Post* staff writer
Francis F. Broman, of the University of Denver basic science instructor who permitted the controversial "mystery man" to lecture to his class on flying saucers, said, "I told this man I must present him and his remarks as an analytical study."

¶March 16, 1950: *Denver Post*
DISK PILOTS GETTING BOLDER, ONE TAKES 5-MINUTE BREAK
Denver Post Special. A Swiss engineer reported that he had seen a flying saucer that had remained suspended in the air for five minutes.

¶March 17, 1950: *Denver Post*
THE UNIVERSITY GETS A DESERVED SPANKING
Denver Post Editorial. "The skirts of academic freedom are wide and are often used to cover many subjects and sins. The case of the flying saucer lecture cannot be so covered, as Chancellor Jacobs (of University of Denver) has said. It is gratifying to see the chancellor take such a strong stand on this case."

¶March 17, 1950: *Los Angeles Daily News*
(Excerpt from Matt Weinstock's column) "Granted that most reports of flying saucers are unreliable or due to wishful imagination, plenty of people have a suspicion there's more to them than meets the eye."

¶March 17, 1950: *Denver Post*

STUDENTS IDENTIFY SAUCER SPEAKER by Thor Sever-
son, *Denver Post* staff writer

"Mr. X" who lectured at University of Denver on flying saucers last March 8 has been finally identified. A picture of the mystery lecturer found in the *Denver Post* files has been identified as Silas M. Newton, president of the Newton Oil Company and Colorado amateur golf champion in 1942. One of the students who identified the picture as that of the lecturer was Bill Berry, who said that he "used to caddy for Newton at the Lakewood golf course."

¶March 17, 1950: *Los Angeles Times*

FLYING SAUCER WHIRLS ABOVE BALDWIN HILLS

(Los Angeles Times special) Roy Wolford, a former jet test pilot, has designed a flying saucer that has two wings that rotate with the disk. Mr. Wolford originally designed the string-controlled disk as a high-speed tow target for aerial gunnery practice.

¶March 18, 1950: *Denver Post*

NEW MEXICO TOWN SURE SAUCER MASS FLIGHT
SEEN

Farmington, N. M., March 18 (UP) Most of the 5,000 residents of this northwestern New Mexico oil town said today that they were "absolutely convinced" that flying saucers exist. More than 50 witnesses—including businessmen and private pilots—said that they saw a mass flight of disk-shaped objects yesterday which came across the town in group waves and numbered "into the hundreds." Clayton Boddy, advertising manager of the *Farmington Daily Times*, said the day was clear with only a light scattering of cirrus clouds at an altitude estimated at 20,000 feet, and with no strong winds capable of picking up paper or similar material.

¶March 18, 1950: *Denver Post*

AIR FORCE HOLDS FLYING DISKS "BUNK"

Washington, March 18 (UP) The Air Force still believes there is no such thing as a flying saucer despite recent reports to the contrary. A spokesman for the Air Force said today that the "unidentified objects result from misinterpretation of various conventional objects, a mild form of mass hysteria, or hoaxes."

¶March 18, 1950: *Las Vegas Daily Optic*

"SPACE SHIPS" CAUSE SENSATION by Walt Rogal, New
Mexico Newspaper staff writer

For the third consecutive day flying saucers have been reported over Farmington. And on each of the three days their arrival was reported between 11 a.m. and noon. Fully half of this town's population is certain today that it saw space ships or some strange aircraft—hundreds of them—zooming through the skies yesterday. Whatever they were, they caused a major sensation in this community, which lies only 110 air miles northwest of the huge Los Alamos atomic installation. One witness who took a triangulation sighting on one of the objects estimated its speed at about 1,000 miles an hour, and estimated its size as approximately twice that of a B-29.

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¶March 18, 1950: *Las Vegas Daily Optic*

Editorial titled: GIVE US THE FACTS

Yesterday hundreds of reliable, sober people in Farmington saw "something" in the skies. At least half believe what they saw was an armada of space ships. Others saw something they never saw before, but won't venture a guess as to what it was. And still others say that what was seen was cotton, or jet planes or some other familiar object. The American population is not composed chiefly of children or idiots. Most of us are adults who are willing to embrace new concepts of time and space without panic. Attempts to keep the public in the dark invariably have hurt the general welfare, not helped it. We can say, however, that it is high time the government of the U. S. cast aside the cloak of evasion and secrecy surrounding these manifestations, and present to the public the findings it has reached on such matters.

¶March 18, 1950: *Los Angeles Times*

SCORES REPORT SEEING SAUCERS' FLIGHT IN FORMATION OVER NEW MEXICO

Farmington, N. M., March 17 (UP) 50 persons reported a mass flight of flying saucers over Farmington, N. Mexico. Groups commencing at 10:30 A.M. and lasted for one hour. Among the saucers was one low-flying red-hued, saucer-shaped object. All the saucers except for this one were silvery color, and all appeared to be very high except for the red-hued one.

¶March 21, 1950: *Los Angeles Daily News*

SEE SAUCER WITH WINDOWS ON BOTTOM

Memphis, Tenn., March 21 (UP) Two airline pilots report that a flying saucer with windows on the bottom and a blinking light on top flew over Arkansas last night at a tremendous rate.
March 21, 1950:

AIR FORCE FEARS MAYBE IT TALKED A LITTLE TOO MUCH

Washington, March 21 (UP) The Air Force was reported red-faced today over some of its too candid disclosures to the House Armed Services Committee. The disclosures were made in a mimeographed 71-page document justifying Air Force requests for authority to build, repair, or expand its bases in this country, Alaska, Labrador, the Azores, and Libya.

¶March 22, 1950: *Los Angeles Daily News*

2 VETERAN PILOTS SWEAR TO FLYING DISK

Memphis, March 22 (UP) Captain Jack Adams and First Officer G. W. Anderson, reported an aircraft in controlled flight over Arkansas moving with terrific speed and possessed of a strange, strong blue-white light, which blinked rapidly on top of the object. It was not a jet. Of that they are sure.

¶March 22, 1950: *Los Angeles Herald Express*

HUNDREDS WATCH DISK 4 HOURS OVER SAN JACINTO MOUNTAINS

Idyllwild, Calif. March 22. Hundreds of people watched a saucer-like object over Idyllwild, California, while watching exhaust trails from a jet aircraft. The disk was estimated to be flying at 30,000 feet and moving northward.

¶March 23, 1950. *Los Angeles Daily News*

Matt Weinstock column. Weinstock relates the story of a Los Angeles businessman who inadvertently landed, due to carburetor trouble with his plane, in an area where a disk presumably had landed. He met with eight hours of questioning by Air Force and was grounded.

¶March 23, 1950: *Variety*

Harry Hinkle of Tucson, Arizona, tries to talk an ex-Air Corps pilot out of some 16 m footage of flying saucer for George Pal's "When Worlds Collide."

¶March 23, 1950: *Los Angeles Daily News*

"SAUCERS" POP UP IN L. A. AREA—8 SEEN OFF COAST
Picture and story of Bill Elder and Bob O'Hara, from the Air Force reserve training center in Long Beach, California. They swear they saw something in the sky near Idyllwild, California, that they had never seen before. They did not say it was a space ship from another planet or "anything else." They saw eight things of an elliptical shape about 100 feet in diameter at 2,000 feet.

¶March 24, 1950: *Denver Post*

Ken White On The Air column. Ralph Edwards on the "Truth or Consequence" program will offer \$1,000 to the first person to show up on his program with one of those little men from an interplanetary space ship.

¶March 25, 1950: *The Mirror*

FLYING "DISK" DAZZLES L. A. WRITER

Daniel Swinton, writer from North Hollywood, California, observed object sighted near his home as being elliptical in shape, brilliant, and undimming.

¶March 26, 1950: *Denver Post*

SAUCERS OR BALLOONS? PICCARD NOT CERTAIN by William L. Hathaway

Minneapolis, March 25. An exclusive interview by the press with Dr. Auguste Piccard, famed scientist and balloonist. Dr. Piccard states that "most saucers may be experimental balloons which travel hundreds of miles." Air Force investigation has given no bases for belief that there are high-speed disks in the skies, says the editor of *Denver Post*. Piccard says there will always be unexplained phenomena—however fewer today than a few hundred years ago . . . most saucers can be explained by competent, scientifically-trained observers.

¶March 27, 1950: *Los Angeles Daily News*

REPORT DISK SEEN NEAR U. S. CAPITAL

Washington, March 27 (UP) Bertram A. Totten, clerk at the Congressional Library saw an aluminum-colored disk about forty feet in diameter and ten feet thick, while flying over Fairfax county on the outskirts of Washington.

¶March 27, 1950: *Los Angeles Times*

PLANET OR SAUCER? MYSTERY SKY VISITOR
SIGHTED BY AIR FORCE

Las Vegas, March 26. Officers and men at the Air Force's Indian Springs gunnery range today were taking turns looking into an antiaircraft scope to glimpse "something bright in the sky." No one said it was a saucer—just wild guesses.

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¶March 27, 1950: *Los Angeles Daily News*

CAN DISKS BE NEW FLYING TARGET DRONE?

Austin, Texas, March 28 (UP) Target drones of apparently fantastic speed are being created by University of Texas scientists for sky scrimmages with new guided missiles. The Air Force has repeatedly denied the existence of flying saucers. Radio announcer, Henry J. Taylor, broadcast that "These disks that are flying saucers are real but that this nation need not be alarmed."

¶March 27, 1950:

Tulsa, Okla., March 27 (AP) Seven Tulsans relate how they saw flying saucers riding high in the dust storm that silted the city.

¶March 28, 1950: *Los Angeles Times*

SAUCERS SEEN AS SECRET OF OUR AIR FORCE

Dallas, March 28 (AP) Henry J. Taylor, radio commentator, said in his opinion flying saucers are real and that when the U. S. Air Force confirms the news it will be wonderful.

¶March 30, 1950: *Los Angeles Mirror*

NAVY "PANCAKE" MAY ANSWER FLYING DISKS by Dick Williams

Picture of disk-like plane that had windows underneath and rows of ports across the front. The plane is the aircraft jet models of the original XF5U. This radically-different type of Navy plane can hang stationary in mid-air or zoom through the skies at speeds up to 550 miles per hour.

¶March 30, 1950: *The New York Times*

MORE "FLYING SAUCERS" IN MEDITERRANEAN, ORIENT

London, March 29. Reports of objects in skies above the Mediterranean as looking like strange bodies emitting smoke trails, moons with wakes of fire, like full moons. In Hong Kong three flying fireballs were reported.

¶March 31, 1950: *Los Angeles Times*

NAVY PLANE

Washington, March 31 (UP) The Navy today discounted a California report that perhaps its twin-engine Chance-Vought XF5U fighter plane had been mistaken for a flying saucer. This type of aircraft was not found to be successful. One was purchased by the Navy two years ago.

¶April 3, 1950: *New York World-Telegram*

THEY USE BIG WORDS TO CONFUSE PUBLIC from Washington Notebook by Peter Edson

Washington, April 3. The biggest off-the-record story in Washington is the flying saucer. Air Force say "there ain't no such animal. They have never seen one and have no photographs or visible proof." Peter Edson says, however, that "privately most officials believe there's something to it."

¶April 3, 1950: *Los Angeles Times*

AIR SAUCERS CALLED TOP SECRET OF U. S.

New York, April 3 (UP) Flying saucers actually are two types of top-secret U. S. military inventions, radio commentator Henry J. Taylor said. The real facts are good news for the nation. One type a disk that whizzes through space, halts suspended in the air, soars to 30,000 feet and more, drops to 1,000 feet and then usually disintegrates in the air. Saucers are harmless, pilotless disks—20 inches to 250 feet in diameter. The other objects are Flying Phantoms, XF5U, jet propelled.

"The Navy is not experimenting with or doing research on any type of plane or guided missile that resembles in any way a flying saucer." (quote by Navy spokesman) The XF5U-1 was unsuccessful and never flown.

It was June 25, 1947, commentator H. J. Taylor said, that saucer experiments began, and they have been expanded constantly ever since. (The Air Force denied Taylor's story.) These words, Taylor says are stenciled on the back of every real saucer: "Anyone damaging or revealing description or whereabouts of this missile is subject to prosecution by the U. S. Government. Call collect at once."

¶April 3, 1950: *Los Angeles Evening Herald & Express*

BARE FLYING SAUCERS AS REAL AIRCRAFT BEING DEVELOPED BY U. S.

Washington, April 3. Reference to the *U. S. News and World Report* article which stated that there is competent evidence that flying saucers are real aircraft of revolutionary design, developed in the United States. "Flying saucers, seen by hundreds of competent observers over most parts of the United States, are accepted as real. Evidence is that they are aircraft of a revolutionary type, a combination of helicopter and fast jet plane." It states that early models were built by engineers of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics.

¶April 3, 1950: (Drew Pearson)

CONGRESSIONAL FLYING SAUCERS

Congressman Mel Price, East St. Louis, Illinois, recently acted as a committee of one from House Armed Services in badgering the Air Force into an investigation of flying saucers. Price's official Air Force reply was "There is absolutely nothing to them," he said. "They are caused by retina retention, mistaken identity, a mild form of mass hysteria, and just plain hoaxes."

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¶April 3, 1950: *Hollywood Citizen News*

"FLYING SAUCERS" REAL THING? NAVY TESTING SECRET PLANES, SAYS MAGAZINE.

Washington, April 3 (AP) The weekly news magazine, *U. S. News and World Report* concludes that the Navy is doing the development relative to flying saucers being real aircraft. It is noted that an Air Force inquiry into saucer reports was called off last December and says this indicates clearly that top Air Force officials know where the saucers originate and are not concerned about them.

¶April 3, 1950: *New York World-Telegram*

DISHING OUT THE DIRT ON FLYING SAUCERS

Washington, April 3. Cartoon by B. Pause with caption, "The Flying Saucers seen around the country were arpad's latest dish washing service to conserve water. . . ." There are quotations from the *U. S. News and World Report* article of the validity of flying saucers being real aircraft, developed in the United States.

¶April 4, 1950: *Los Angeles Times*

AIR SAUCERS CALLED TOP U. S. SECRET

New York, April 3 (UP) Quotations from commentator Henry J. Taylor that flying saucers are two types of top-secret U. S. military inventions.

¶April 4, 1950: *New York Herald Tribune*

FLYING SAUCERS CALLED SECRET U. S. WARCRAFT OF TERRIFIC SPEED

Washington, April 3. Picture given, which was also included in the *U. S. News and World Report* article, of the one-third scale model built in 1942. The model is said to be the prototype of flying saucers which the *U. S. News and World Report* article said are real aircraft.

¶April 4, 1950:

TRUMAN, JOHNSON TRY TO DOWN THE DISKS

Washington, April 4 (UP) Mr. Truman announced through his press secretary at Key West, Florida that he knows nothing of any flying saucers being developed by this or any other country. "We are not denying this because of any developments of secret weapons, but purely because we know of nothing to support these rumors," said Press Secretary Charles G. Ross.

¶April 4, 1950: *The New York Times*

"SAUCERS" CALLED REAL NAVY PLANES

Washington, April 3 (AP) Recap of the magazine article from *U. S. News and World Report*, which declares evidence indicating revolutionary craft are of U. S. development. Included a picture of scale model built in 1942 mounted for wind tunnel tests at Langley, Va.

¶April 4, 1950: *Denver Post*

U. S. DENIES SAUCERS TEST WEAPONS

Washington, April 4 (UP) Air Force and Navy say they are not experimenting with any plane or weapon that could account for widespread reports about the flying disks. A spokesman for the Air Force after investigation of hundreds of saucer stories said the armed services are standing on conclusions reached last December that flying saucers just don't exist.

¶April 5, 1950: *The New York Times*

TRUMAN, JOHNSON RIDICULE "SAUCERS"

Key West, Fla. April 4 (Special) President Truman said today he knew nothing about the flying saucer, while other White House comment relegated the reputed wanderer to the realm of myths. The *Miami Daily News* has been publishing copyrighted photographs of a glowing concave object which it identifies as the saucer that flies. . . . Charles G. Ross, White House secretary, quoted Brig. General Robert B. Landry and Rear Admiral Robert L. Dennison as saying they knew nothing of the flying saucers. Mr. Ross said he wasn't denying them for security reasons, that he thought it extremely unlikely they could be part of a secret weapon project concealed even from the President and as far he knew no other country had them. Secretary of Defense Johnson said he wouldn't mind having a few squadrons if they increased security.

¶April 5, 1950. *Los Angeles Times*

WHITE HOUSE POOH-POOHS "SECRET WEAPON" SAUCERS

Key West, Fla., April 4 (AP) Dr. Clark B. Millikan, chairman of the Armed Forces Guided Missile Committee, gave a flat denial to chain-reaction rumors of government disk developments. He confirmed the reports that work is being done on space rockets capable of streaking out of the earth's atmosphere.

¶April 5, 1950: *New York Journal American*

DO SAUCERS FLY? LEADERS SAY YES AND NO.

Washington, April 1 (UP) One House member who should know said flatly there is no such thing as a flying saucer. But another member equally qualified said he has seen one himself. "I am confident of this," said Rep. Engel (R.-Mich.) "If there are any such things as saucers they are ours, not somebody else's."

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¶April 5, 1950: *New York Journal American*

NOT ENEMY ACTIVITY SAYS DEFENSE DEPT.

Washington, April 5 (UP) Here is text of Defense Department statement on flying saucers: "There is no intention of reopening Project Saucer, an Air Force Special project officially closed three months ago. However the Air Force has and will continue to receive and evaluate through normal field intelligence channels any substantial reports of any unusual aerial phenomena."

¶April 6, 1950: *Hollywood Advertiser*

GRIFFITH PARK DIRECTOR SCOFFS AT FLYING DISKS

Just their imagination, says Dr. Dinsmore Alter, Director of the Griffith Park Observatory. "Flying saucers are all kinds of imagination-flavored things—but they certainly aren't space ships from Mars." He goes further to state that "The saucers just are 'ordinary phenomena,' twisted by untrained observers, whose reading and discussions about the possibility of space travel lead them to interpret some of what they see on high as saucers."

¶April 6, 1950: *Rocky Mountain News*

FLYING ORANGE SPOTTED IN SKIES: Disk, Too, Seen Performing Aerial Antics

A woman called the *Rocky Mountain News* reporting that she saw an object completely round except that it was silver and gray in color instead of orange. It was spinning in a conventional flying disk manner. This object was sighted by four other persons. Another object sighted in the same area was disk-like in shape, but not round as the orange one reported.

¶April 9, 1950: *The New York Times*

THOSE FLYING SAUCERS: ARE OR AREN'T THEY? by Joseph Nolan.

In a by-lined story spreading over four columns the *Times* recapitulated stories of the flying saucers. Everybody had been left puzzled, including the President and many guesses were made.

¶April 10, 1950: *Los Angeles Times*

SCORCHED BOY INSISTS HE TOUCHED SAUCER

Amarillo, Tex., April 9 (UP) David Lightfood, 12, sighted what was at first thought to be a balloon, but turned out to be an object about the same circumference as an automobile tire, and about 18 inches thick. It was rounded on the bottom with a top resembling a flat plate. He barely touched it when he claimed it was slick like a snake and hot. It was blue-gray in color and had no opening other than the divided section. There was some release of gas or spray when the object took off, which turned his arms and face bright red, causing welts. A younger boy of 9 confirmed this story.

¶April 10, 1950: *The Salinas Sun*

SALINAN SPOTS FLYING SAUCER

Lindsborg, April 10. P. E. Patchin of Lindsborg, said he saw a gray-white, clam-shaped object streaking across the sky near Lindsborg at 11:30 A.M. Wednesday. The object was visible to him for about five and one-third miles. It made no noise, and according to Patchin's mathematical calculations, it was heading southwest at about 650 miles per hour and at an altitude of two miles.

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¶April 10, 1950: *Los Angeles Daily News*

LINKS FLYING DISKS WITH MYSTERY SUB

Boise, Idaho, April 10 (UP) Kenneth Arnold is again in the news. Arnold believes there is a link between the flying saucers and the mysterious submarines reported off the U. S. coastline. He agrees with those who think that the strange aircraft might be space ships from another planet.

¶April 11, 1950: *Los Angeles Times*

CHROMELIKE "SAUCER" SEEN OVER MONTEREY

Monterey, April 10 (AP) A chromelike flying saucer was spotted here today by seven persons. It was cruising at a high rate of speed over Monterey. The object was 30 feet in diameter and was at an altitude of approximately 4,000 feet.

¶April 14, 1950: *Los Angeles Daily News*

FLYING DISK DESIGNED 23 YEARS AGO

Monterey, Calif., April 14 (UP) Alexander G. Weygers, a mechanical engineer and architect, designed a "discopter" 23 years ago. The patented designs for this gas or jet powered craft were rejected by Consolidated Vultee Aircraft Corp. in April, 1945 as being "too advanced."

¶April 19, 1950: *Los Angeles Daily News*

TEXANS REPORT SEEING FLYING BANANA—SYMINGTON POOH-POOHS IT

Dallas, Tex., April 19 (UP) Bewildered Texans today sought an explanation for flying saucers, flying bananas, and even a dinner plate which they thought they saw in the sky. Hundreds saw them, in Fort Worth, Austin, and Clarendon as well as Dallas.

Ira Maxey, a Fort Worth veteran of 3,600 hours of Air Force flying, produced pictures of curved banana-like objects which he photographed. He said they left vapor trails. Air Force Secretary Symington, who wasn't in Texas, but in San Francisco at the time, said "there is nothing at all to such reports."

¶April 20, 1950: *Denver Post*

AIR FORCE ORDERS "SAUCER" WATCH IN TEXAS SKIES

Fort Worth, Tex., April 20, 1950 (AP) The 8th Air Force still doesn't believe in flying saucers but its pilots will keep an eye out for "any unusual aerial phenomena" said a recent memorandum issued by 8th Air Force Headquarters.

¶April 20, 1950: *Los Angeles Times*

RANCHER CAPTURES FLYING DISK: SAYS IT'S NAVY PROPERTY

Douglas, Wyo., April 20 (UP) Everett Fletcher, a rancher, sighted a flying ball in the skies 32 miles north of here and followed it to the ground. Stamped on a name-plate was, "this scientific apparatus is the joint property of the U. S. Navy and the University of Minnesota. Made in Lexington, Kentucky."

A telephone call to Minneapolis said it was a Navy instrument used for measuring cosmic rays. "Don't open it," a Naval officer warned. "Ship it here immediately, but don't touch it."

¶April 22, 1950: *Los Angeles Daily News*

MAN CHASED BY FLYING SAUCER SHOWERING SPARKS

Lufkin, Tex., April 22 (UP) Jack Robertson, 28, a pharmacist graduated from the University of Texas, was motoring along Highway 94 west of town. He felt something following him. He stopped and got out of his car. An object approached, hovered 200 feet over him, turned a 50-degree angle and speeded off, dropping sparks as it climbed. It whirled like a flying saucer. Five minutes later his face started burning. His experience changed his views about the nonexistence of flying saucers, Air Force or no Air Force.

¶April 26, 1950: *The New York Times*

CIVILIAN TRAINING IN ATOM DETECTION

"I believe," said Paul J. Larson, director of the Office of Civilian Mobilization of the National Security Resources Board, "it is essential that, insofar as it is possible, all of us tell the same story."

OIL BASIN FOLKS WONDER, DID THEY SEE FLYING SAUCERS?

Rangely, Colo., April 27 Seven persons including the Continental Oil Co. Superintendent A. W. Jay and his wife and daughter, said that they simultaneously saw a glowing object flash across the sky Thursday night in this northwestern Colorado oil town. Mr. and Mrs. Glen Holden saw one 50 to 75 feet away. It was circular and appeared to be covered with a "phosphorescent metallic paint." Also Ronnie Grisdale and Carley Cook, oil field workers, reported a "strange glow which seemed to hang in the sky." By their reports, one flew fast, one flew low, one stood still.

¶April 29, 1950: *The Chicago Times*

AIRLINER FLIRTS WITH A "DISK"; 'TAS RED, ROUND AND GLOWING

South Bend, April 29 (Chicago Times, Special) Capt. Robert Adickes, a veteran TWA pilot, and several passengers said they saw a mysterious "round, glowing mass" in the air as they flew over South Bend Thursday night. "I used to laugh at all those flying saucer reports, but it's no laughing matter now," Adickes said. "I saw one." Adickes' story was confirmed by First Officer Robert Manning and several of the 19 passengers aboard the Washington-to-Chicago flight. "It appeared to be controlled by repulse radar," Adickes said. "As I'd turn toward it, it would veer away, keeping the same distance."

¶April 29, 1950: *Los Angeles Examiner*

SAUCER GLOWS AT IT GOES

Kansas City, April 28 (AP) Captain Robert Adickes, veteran Trans World Airline pilot, 29, described a flying saucer he saw as twenty to fifty feet in diameter and about five feet thick. His first officer, his hostess, and nineteen passengers in flight from Washington to Chicago backed him up. They saw it too.

¶APRIL 29, 1950: *Canyon Crier* (Los Angeles)

HILLSIDER SWEARS HE'S SEEN, FILMED, AND INSPECTED FLYING SAUCERS

Mikel Conrad, who lives at 1401 N. Sierra Bonita, in Los Angeles, swears he has photographed eight flying saucers, landing and taking off, 40 miles north of Juneau, Alaska. The government confiscated 900 feet of his film and released it with certain restrictions a year later. "I give information I'm permitted to the press," he said, "and they try to verify it in Washington and get no answers. Questions are completely ignored. But if you want to, go ahead and print it. It's all true."

¶April 29, 1950: *Los Angeles Times*

VENUS TAKES A BOW

San Bruno, Calif., April 29 (UP) Police in these bay area peninsula towns were a little shamefaced when an officer reported a flying saucer. Police radios hummed with talk about the flaming saucer, but stations went silent when a dispatcher, an amateur astronomer, announced that the saucer "was nothing but the planet Venus taking a bow."

¶April 30, 1950: *Los Angeles Times*

FLYING SAUCERS NOW GO IN FORMATION—8 OF THEM

Centralia, Wash., April 29 (UP) Mrs. Albert Goelitzer said, "I happened to look out the window, and saw two saucers, but they were immediately joined by six others." She reported that they were all of the same flat cylindrical shape generally described by others who have reported seeing the objects, but that one was tinged a dark red.

¶May 1, 1950: *Quick Magazine*

New York *Quick* predicts: "The high command will have to make its demands stronger to stop flying saucer rumors. The Pentagon is full of officers who don't know what to believe."

¶May 22, 1950:

MOST THINK DISKS ARE SECRET WEAPON

Princeton, N. J. May 21 George Gallup reported that the American Institute of Public Opinion's latest poll indicated that the largest number of people believe that flying saucers are new experimental weapons or flying contraptions being tested by the Army or Navy. This represents quite a change from 1947 when the largest number labeled them as nothing more than an illusion or a hoax. Five per cent thought they were something from another planet and six per cent thought they were some kind of new airplane. Only three per cent thought they were something from Russia.

¶May 1950: *The Way of St. Francis*

MYTH OR FACT

If proof is forthcoming that the flying saucers carry visitors from another planet, then the Biblical story of creation and Christianity are disproved, according to a reader. The fact is that, first, that "if" is a big one. Besides that, the Bible and Christianity are God's provision for dealing with the children of Adam of this earth. Moreover, the truth of all that is contained in the Bible and Christianity in no way excluded the possibility that God has created other groups of intelligent beings, who may or may not inhabit other planets. In fact the Bible tells us many times of a group of intelligent beings, called angels. It even records the visitations of a few of these beings to our earth. God has told us about the angels; there could be other beings He has created about which He has told us nothing. After all, there are some men who find it difficult to accept what He has told them.

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¶April 6, 1950: *Los Angeles Times*

REACTIONARY HOLD OUT AGAINST SAUCERS THAT FLY by Max Hamilton. Hamilton states that if there were flying saucers they would have to originate either on the earth or elsewhere in the universe. The latter, he feels, is preposterous. "Not even atomic fission, the most sensational discovery in history, burst full blown upon the world. The possibilities of it were discussed generations before. But no reputable aeronautical engineer has ever suggested that a saucer-shaped vehicle would be a wonderful new way of conquering the air," further states Hamilton.

¶April 7, 1950: *Denver Post*
ANOTHER DISK GUESS

"It isn't hard at all to explain the flying 'saucer,'" writes Cornelius Donovan, of New York City. "It is a 'secret' project of an earth government, namely the United States of America. . . . Quite understandably, government officials deny having anything to do with the 'flying saucer' method of taking the American taxpayer for a ride through the stratosphere! Could they be just a bit ashamed, by any chance?"

¶April 7, 1950: *Los Angeles Daily News*
"FLYING CANDLES" ARE THE LATEST

El Centro, April 7 (UP) Several residents reported seeing hundreds of lights hovering over the city. Some moved fast—others more slowly—before disappearing.

¶April 7, 1950: *Los Angeles Daily News*
EXPERT SAYS FLYING SAUCERS U. S. MILITARY SECRET

Montvale, N. J. April 7 (UP) Willy Ley, one of the world's outstanding authorities on rockets and flight above the stratosphere, said he firmly believed that the flying saucers have been winging across the U. S. He said they are not rocket-propelled. The U. S. might very probably have learned how to send disks soaring over the nation in controlled flight. He gives three possibilities: (1) They are a U. S. military secret, (2) They are the secret of some foreign power, or (3) The flying saucers are from another planet. Ley's personal opinion is that the flying saucers are a U. S. military secret.

¶April 7, 1950: *Hollywood Citizen News*
FLYING DISKS NOT HOAXES. Syndicated feature by David Lawrence.

Washington, D. C. Quotes from the *U. S. News and World Report*, also Ken Purdy, editor of *True*, which published the two articles written by Donald Keyhoe and Commander McLaughlin. "You are quite correct in saying that the flying saucers exist," Lawrence quoted Purdy as saying. "Of course they do, and I think no one can properly write this story without reference to the fact that we first made the statement in December 1949." Lawrence added, that "clearly something is lacking to explain what the competent Air Force flyers wrote in reporting their observations of the flying saucers—which reports are reposing in official files and have never been made public."

¶April 9, 1950: *Denver Post*

VIEWER BREAKS SILENCE TO TELL OF L. A. SAUCER

Denver, April 9, *Denver Post* Special. One Denver flying-saucer-viewer broke a ten month silence Saturday to describe what he says must surely have been a flying saucer he viewed one afternoon last July in Los Angeles. Mr. J. S. Stankavage, a retired painter, said he kept quiet because "my wife and I were afraid if I said anything about it people would accuse me of 'seeing' things." Stankavage said the heart-shaped object he saw appeared to have two portholes along the side. It did not spin, but moved with the point of the heart headed forward.